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Fort Resolution

NORTHWEST
TERRITORIES



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FORMATION

POLAR PAM

FORT RESOLUTION

Fort Resolution is almost two centuries old, and its personality is strikingly different from the personalities of other communities around it. Fort Smith and Hay River -- big "towns" with an emphasis on modernity and facilities geared to the future. Fort Resolution, on the other hand, has a much more traditional flavor, enhanced by the abundance of log houses.

For many years Fort Resolution enjoyed the status of being the main settlement on Great Slave Lake, and it was the hub of transportation in that region. But after Fort Smith was established and alternate transportation routes to the west were found, Fort Resolution declined in importance.

Fort Resolution is located 61° 10' North Latitude, 113° 40' West Longitude, near the mouth of the Slave River on Great Slave Lake. Its population is made up mainly of Chipewyan Indians.

HISTORY

Samuel Hearne's explorations in the eighteenth century stimulated interest in the fur resources of the northwest. In 1778 Peter Pond wintered near Lake Athabasca and traded with the Chipewyan Indians. His success encouraged the influx of more traders, who quickly reached Great Slave Lake. In 1786 the famous trader Cuthbert Grant and Laurent Leroux established a trading post for the Northwest Company near the mouth of the Slave River. Several years later the post was moved a few miles to a new site on Moose Deer Island. The Hudson's Bay Company established a trading post in the vicinity at about the same time. When the Northwest Company and the Hudson's Bay Company merged in 1821, the two posts became one, which was named Fort Resolution.

St. Joseph's Hospital at Fort Resolution was originally built to accommodate up to one hundred TB patients. In the 1950's care of TB patients was transferred to the Charles Camsell Hospital in Edmonton. As a result, the hospital at Fort Resolution was considerably downgraded, and many residents lost their jobs there. Social assistance had to be increased considerably.

In 1964 a Co-op was founded to provide new sources of income. Commercial fishing, logging, and sawmill operations were tried.

ECONOMY

There is still unemployment at Fort Resolution, and social assistance is necessary. About a dozen full-time trappers remain in the settlement, and many others trap to some degree.

The main source of wage employment is with the local sawmill, a new private business. Some men find jobs at the Pine Point Mines, which are not far from Fort Resolution. This does not prove to be too much of a hardship, as there is a great deal of travelling and socializing between the two neighboring communities anyway. Other sources of wage employment in Fort Resolution are found in local services and small businesses, and with government agencies. Many women in Fort Resolution sell piece work through the Craft Shop.

TRANSPORTATION

Fort Resolution has a 4150' by 200' airstrip, which is maintained by M.O.T. and has night landing facilities. Pacific Western Airlines has scheduled flights twice a week from Fort Smith and Yellowknife.

Fort Resolution is connected by all-weather road to the Mackenzie Highway system. Several trucking firms and a bus serve the community. The community also receives supplies by barge from the Northern Transportation Co. Ltd., in Hay River which arrive each summer during the June to October shipping season.



Rec'd:

Order No:

Price:

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McPherson's General Store

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COMMUNICATIONS

Canadian National Telecommunications maintains a telephone system in the settlement, and R.C.M.P. and M.O.T. operate their own radios for communications. Mail is delivered three times weekly. CBC's Mackenzie service brings radio broadcasting all day long, and CBC TV operates each evening from 7 P.M. until 11 P.M.

ACCOMMODATIONS

At present there are no public hotel facilities in Fort Resolution. However a motel is planned, and should open sometime in 1973. Meals (quite satisfactory) can be obtained at two local cafes, or you can buy provisions at one of the general stores. Within the next few years a campsite will be built near Fort Resolution for tourists.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Water is taken from Great Slave Lake, chlorinated, and delivered to homes in Fort Resolution. Government staff housing is equipped with pump systems for running water. Sewage is disposed of in cess pits, and garbage is collected regularly. The Northern Canada Power Commission provides electricity by hydro-electric power. The settlement has volunteer fire department with a pumper truck and other equipment. Two R.C.M. Police reside in the settlement.

HEALTH SERVICES

St. Joseph's Hospital, which was once a big operation in Fort Resolution, is now gone. In its place there is a Nursing Station to take care of the community's medical needs. Two nurses and an aid work there full-time, and a doctor visits regularly from Fort Smith. The nearest hospital is located in Hay River (76 air miles or 102 road miles).

EDUCATION

The school in Fort Resolution teaches grades one through eight. The school itself, which is brand new, has open-area classrooms in bright colors.

Fort Resolution also has an Adult Education program, with special trailers set aside for this purpose.

STORES

Hudson's Bay Co. - General store; fur trader
McPherson's - general store
Angus' Cafe - restaurant; retail goods
Handicraft Shop - handicraft sales and production
Nahanni Lumber Ltd., - Lumber
-- also two gas stations --

CHURCHES

Fort Resolution is served by two churches -- a long established Roman Catholic Mission and a newer Pentecostal Church.

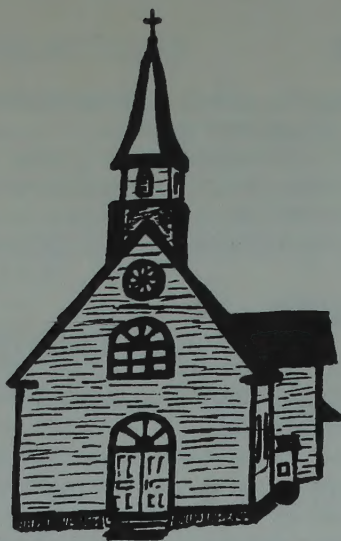
RECREATION

Fort Resolution has an attractive log Community Hall with a capacity for 200 persons. There is also a curling rink and a skating rink in the community.

There is a great deal of traffic to the nearby mining community of Pine Point, especially on weekends, to take advantage of the recreation facilities there and the entertainment at the local bar. The environment around Fort Resolution offers fine facilities for outdoor activities, camping, hiking, and fishing.



Handicraft Shop.Ene K'an Kewen. ᠨᠣᠪᠳᠤᠰᠤᠭ



R.C. Church

ODDS & ENDS

Fort Resolution's population for 1972 was just under 700 persons, mostly Chipewyan Indians.

There is no bank in Fort Resolution. Most residents use the Bank of Montreal in Pine Point.

The Post Office is located in the Bay. Zip code is XOE OMO.

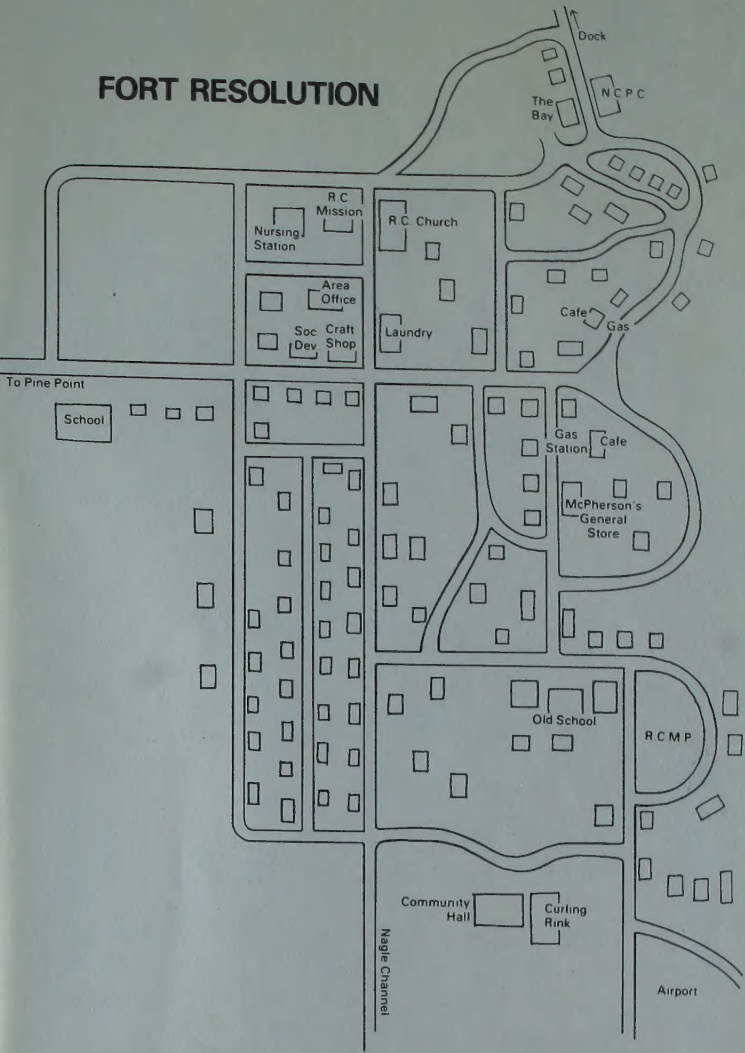
Liquor is not available in the settlement, but can be purchased at Pine Point.

At present there is no library, but one is planned for the near future.

Take a scenic boat trip on the Slave River or Rocher River, for fishing or for sightseeing. It is fairly easy to arrange a rental with local boat owners.

Pacific Western air fare one-way from Fort Smith is \$13.00; one-way from Yellowknife is \$12.00. One-way bus fare to Pine Point is \$4.00.

FORT RESOLUTION





NORTHWEST TERRITORIES GENERAL INFORMATION

1,304,903 square miles, being 33.9 percent of the area of Canada.

Mainland area	730,266 square miles
Freshwater area	51,465 square miles
Offshore Islands area	523,172 square miles

Coastline length — approximately 9,500 miles.

Highway system — 841 miles.

Population — 1971 - 35,526: 1966 - 28,128

Business Volume 1970 — approximately \$215,000,000

Value of mineral production included above — \$124,000,000

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